

Friends Bulletin

PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

VOLUME 35, NUMBER 9

JUNE, 1967

QUAKERS AND ECUMENICITY

Friends Meetings differ a great deal not only in their attitude towards ecumenical affiliations, but also in their interest and involvement in the relationships they have made. I should like to examine some reasons given for our coolness toward the ecumenical movement.

First, we may feel, even though we don't express it so bluntly, that we have nothing to learn from the churches in our community. Such a feeling may be derived from our Quietist period, vestiges of which still affect some phases of the Society of Friends; it may also be the result of the fact that many Friends have fled from various Christian churches and are unhappy to think that a Friends Meeting is taking them back. Whatever its source, this attitude is smug. It reminds me, in contrast, of John Woolman's well-known expedition to the Indians, "... if haply I might receive some instruction from them, or they might be in any degree helped forward by my following the leadings of truth among them." We should note, by the way, that it was a dialog John Woolman was intending, a confrontation with mutual benefit. If we reply that it was Indians, not Christians, whom he went to visit, we are forgetting a detail of that journey; namely, his delicate and generous dealing with the Moravian missionary Pastor Zeisberger who had made a convert of Chief Papunahung. Furthermore, it was at a Moravian service when Woolman spoke from the Source "where words come from." In regard to our preference for interfaith rather than inter-church cooperation, I must ask whether we are like those Christians who loved God whom they had not seen but not their brothers whom they had seen? Do we profess to love Buddhists, Moslems, and Hindus whom we haven't seen but not the Presbyterians and Methodists whom we have seen? John's Epistle calls us liars. I prefer to say sentimentalists.

At the present time, Friends are reading and benefiting from the writings of Paul Tillich, Teilhard de Chardin, Paul Tournier, Evelyn Underhill and Dietrich Bonhoeffer—quite a variety of Christian churches represented by this partial list. True, on inter-church committees we shall not frequently

meet Christians of such distinction, but fairly ordinary Lutherans, Catholics, Presbyterians and Episcopalians, as most of us are ordinary Friends. Nevertheless, is it not possible that we may receive some instruction from them, or they may be in some degree helped forward by us?

One instruction I have appreciated receiving was in regard to the work of the World Council of Churches, especially that of Church World Service. We may know of the Church World Service resettlement of more than 250,000 refugees, since meetings which have sponsored displaced persons have been involved in this project. Do we know of the wide-spread group of World Council of Churches Centers for the study of the World Religions? Noodle factories in Algeria; family planning programs in Peru and Guatemala; a pilot solar distillation plan in Greece? Friends rejoice in the compassionate and imaginative work of the American Friends Service Committee, even though we are sometimes embarrassed as individuals when the prestige of the AFSC is attributed to us. However, the AFSC is seldom able to respond to the natural or man-made disaster. We should know that Church World Service is feeding one million hungry persons in India, 200,000 drought victims in Central Java, and giving emergency aid in East Pakistan following a devastating cyclone which left seven million homeless.

Another objection to ecumenism is that the Councils of Churches have a creedal statement as the basis of fellowship. A non-creedal religious society finds this a weighty difficulty. However, many Friends Meetings have had some experience in the process of affiliation with local, state and national Councils of Churches. First, we must explain that the unity of Friends does not depend on a creed but on our common worship and conduct of business, including the exercise of answering similar queries. Furthermore, no creed will be acceptable to all Friends. We may find at this point an honest acknowledgement that the same situation prevails within many of the creedal churches. In our explanation of our position, we may quote Thomas Story's statement concerning the unity of Christians which "never did

(Continued on page 6)

FRIENDS BULLETIN

2635 Emerald Street
Eugene, Oregon 97403

ALICE DART, Editor

VOL. 35, No. 9

JUNE, 1967

The official organ of news and opinion of Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends.

Second-class postage paid at Eugene, Oregon.

PUBLISHED monthly except bi-monthly in January-February and July-August. Deadline for copy is tenth of month preceding issue; except first of September, January, and July.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$3.00 per year. Monthly Meetings are encouraged to collect and subscribe for all their subscribers. Contributions beyond subscriptions are welcome to help meet actual costs and reduce Yearly Meeting subsidy. Contributions are tax exempt. Receipts sent on request.

ADVERTISEMENTS: Classified—five cents a word; subject to approval of contents.

PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING OFFICERS

Clerk: Madge T. Seaver, 2160 Lake St., San Francisco, Calif. 94121.

Recording Clerk: Richard Manners, 6253 Temple City Blvd., Temple City, Calif. 91780.

Statistical Secretary: Mildred Burck, 5820 N. Vineyard Dr., Corvallis, Ore. 97330.

Treasurer: Robert Young, 234 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, Calif. 91101.

Young Friends Clerk: Helen Dart, 2635 Emerald St., Eugene, Oregon 97403.

Junior YM Clerk: Ken Lynd, John Woolman School, Rt. 1, Box J-26, Nevada City, Calif. 95959.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Bulletin: Edward Thatcher, 1812 Villard, Eugene, Ore. 97403.

Discipline: Esther Richards, 2814 NE 27th Ave., Portland, Ore. 97212.

Education: Gerri House, 2247 Garfias Dr., Pasadena, Calif. 91104.

Finance: Paton Crouse, 1238 111th NE, Bellevue, Wash. 98004.

Friends in the Orient: Gretchen Tuthill, 3840 Skyline Rd., Carlsbad, Calif. 92008.

Friends Schools: Helen Stevenson, Argenta, B.C., Canada.

History: Walt Raitt, 7919 Misty Lane, Stockton, CA 95207.

Ministry and Oversight: Catherine Bruner, 1603 Woodland Dr., Stockton, Calif. 95207.

New Ways to Bring Friends Together in Meetings: Phillip Wells, 6350 Trelawney Ave., Temple City, Calif. 91780.

Nominating: Scott Longenecker, 42 W. Floral Ave., Arcadia, Calif. 91006.

Peace: Stuart Innerst, 5840 Camino de la Costa, La Jolla, Calif. 92037.

Permanent Site: Bob Barnes, Rt. 1, Box J45, Nevada City, CA 95959.

PYM Holding Corporation: Vern James, President, 604 Tennyson Ave., Palo Alto, Calif. 94301.

Social Order: John Ullman, 2222 Felspar, San Diego, Calif. 92109.

Visitation: Gretchen Rudnick, 405 Vincente Way, La Jolla, Calif. 92037.

1967 YEARLY MEETING

August 13-17, 1967

Claremont Men's College, Claremont, California

PLANS FOR YEARLY MEETING

Pacific Yearly Meeting will be held August 12-17 on the campus of Claremont Men's College, Claremont, California. Representative Meeting and standing committees will convene on August 12. Dinner will be the first meal served on the days of arrival. (The tentative schedule was published in the April *Friends Bulletin*.)

Room and board will be in college dormitories. Rooms cannot accommodate more extra children on the floor than the number of beds — e.g. a 2-bed room can accommodate a maximum of 4 persons. No adults may sleep on the floor. Junior Friends may room together in one dormitory or may choose to room with their families; the same maximum as above specified applies. Towels and bed linens for those in beds will be provided; bring blankets; bring all bedding and linens for those on the floor.

There will be no camping; there are no camping facilities whatsoever in the Claremont area of southern California within reasonable driving distance of Yearly Meeting.

Dogs: there is a strict leash law in Claremont; dogs are not allowed in the campus buildings; if you must bring a dog, plan to put him into a boarding kennel for the duration of your stay.

Registration forms are enclosed with this *Bulletin*. Additional forms may be secured from Clerks of Monthly Meetings or from the Editor of the *Bulletin*. Forms must be accompanied by the registration fee of \$1 for each person 12 years of age and older plus a \$10 deposit; and they must be in the mail to the Registrar by July 28.

Junior Friends are reminded that the Junior YM Executive Committee and the PYM Executive Committee have agreed that every Junior Friend who attends YM must have a sponsor, who must sign his registration form; a sponsor is defined as "a participant of Pacific Yearly Meeting who shows an active concern in the activities of the Junior Friend he sponsors and who will meet at PYM three times a day with the Junior Friend under his care."

Costs: Refer to the Registration form. There is a family maximum of \$100, plus registration fees for each person 12 and over, for four days; and \$125, plus registration fees, for five days. As there is no camping available Monthly Meetings are urged to set up sharing funds for their members who might otherwise be unable to attend.

CONTACTS

Arrangements Chairman: Dorothy Bruff, 11816 E. Whitley St., Whittier, CA 90601, ph. (213) 695-2781

Physical Arrangements: Ian Thierman, 60 S. Topanga Blvd., Topanga, CA 90290

Registrar: Esther Morgan, 14551 Dyer St., Sylmar, CA 91342; ph. (213) 367-5288

Book Store: Ruth Wendt, 2691 Lincoln Ave., Altadena, CA 91002

Children's Program: Lois Bailey, 13864 Sayre St., Sylmar, CA 91342

Art Show Chairman: Jean Taylor, 1275 Morada Pl., Altadena, CA 91001

Junior Friends Clerk: Ken Lynd, 1810 San Francisco, Berkeley, CA 94703

Young Friends Clerk: Helen Dart, 2635 Emerald St., Eugene, OR 97403

YEARLY MEETING NOTICES

—It was announced in error in the May issue that Ward Miles is now the Assistant Clerk of PYM. This office is still vacant.

—**Disciplines** are now in plentiful supply. Price - 75c each, plus 10c postage. Large orders are welcome. Order from Wanda Underhill, 1724 "B" St., Hayward, CA 94541.

—**PYM Representatives to AFSC, FCNL, FWCC, William Penn House, etc.,** are reminded that the Executive Committee agreed in March that they should use the *Friends Bulletin* as much as possible as a reporting media, and that reports should not be repetitive of reports already published elsewhere in Friends literature but should involve new, vital issues where the valuable and necessary participation of Friends needs to be stimulated.

—**All PYM committees** are reminded that the Executive Committee recommended their meeting in early summer, if possible, to settle on ideas and concerns and publish them as part of the documents in advance in the *Friends Bulletin*.

—**Documents in advance of Yearly Meeting** should be in the hands of the Editor of the *Bulletin* by July 15.

—**Committee Chairman - PYM and Interest groups:** have you given notice of your needs for space and equipment for PYM to Ian Thierman?

—**A postage stamp exchange** will be arranged as an interest group at YM by John and Ann Salyer. Collectors and other interested persons of all ages will have an opportunity to look at albums, exchange duplicates and information on stamps. Some may have rare issues that others would not have an opportunity to see at other times, and Friends are invited to bring stamps to show as well as exchange. The Salyers have brought home from Nigeria many duplicates that they wish to exchange for current issues from other lands. (This is not a time or place for professional dealers.)

HOPES FOR THE FRIENDS WORLD CONFERENCE

A once in fifteen years gathering of Friends from all over the world lies just ahead. What are we expecting of it? Or are we expecting anything?

I would like to write briefly of guidance I have received as a delegate from two sources—the Ministry and Oversight Committee of Yearly Meeting, and a discussion among the Stockton members of my own Delta Monthly Meeting.

From the Ministry and Oversight Committee meeting last March came a united expression of feeling that the Friends World Committee is the ecumenical Friends body to which Yearly Meeting should belong and that we should seek to make our ties to it stronger. The minute of the Committee says: "We hope that interest in and knowledge of the Friends World Committee will grow to the point where there can be a West Coast office for it. We should be looking for ways to invite the American Section to the West Coast." Our location from which we are ever looking westward across the Pacific to Asia serves to keep us strongly aware of international ties to be cultivated.

In the Stockton discussion one of our young members reminded us that as Friends we are too simply American and we expect others to behave according to the cultural ways ingrained in us. When Americans think of the world we unconsciously take the missionary stance: Let us share our riches and show you how to approach our view of the Kingdom of God. Even the AFSC does this. We should be looking to the Friends World Committee to pull us out of this provincialism.

Through the Friends World Conference we should be seeking together (all nationalities and all cultures) for a way that transcends all our particular ways. Yet at Guilford and Greensboro there will be danger that, instead, the agony of Americans might become the center about which the conference will circle: Vietnam and our failures in race relations. American guilt could carry everything into a vortex with it. But what if our national guilt could be somehow lifted up? What if in worship and not out of guilt we could find priorities established? We will bring out inventories of concerns; and they are long (see the two study books and the Woodbrooke list in the second book, for example); but they are not the essential point. Nor are even the questions: Who are we? What is Friends' role?

We shall learn who we are as we seek together a true community. In terms of what is required of community we shall learn not only who we are, but what is our role, what are our priorities. It seems more likely that, instead of Americans, it will be the British who have been freed in their national life from the unconscious imperial urge to dominate; or the Japanese who live at the crossing of East and West and who beneath their Christianity know Buddhism who will be the ones to take the lead in seeking and finding the transcending patterns of Quaker world community. So we would come a step nearer to knowing truly the Kingdom of God.

CATHERINE BRUNER
Delta Meeting

* * *

Rufus Jones once said that, when he found himself on the horns of a dilemma, his leading quite often was to embrace both horns. He was testifying, I believe, to something deep and demanding in our Quaker faith.

Somehow, if God has favored Friends with a particular insight, it is to discern, through the oft-deceptive appearance of things, that God himself is often on both sides of many of the great issues that divide men. We see we have a stake here and a stake there, a foot in both camps. This is an uncomfortable position to be in.

FERNER NUHN
From "Both And"
in *SEEK AND FIND SHARE*

THE QUARTERLY MEETINGS

(Continued)

ARIZONA HALF-YEARLY MEETING Phoenix, Pima Flagstaff Worship Group

From 1960 meetings for fellowship were held between Phoenix and Tucson. The formal beginning of the Half-Yearly Meeting was in April, 1965, seeking fellowship and the deepening of spiritual resources. 5 adults and children attended that first session.

They meet in late summer in Tucson from Friday supper to Sunday afternoon, staying in a private school that houses everybody. In February or March they meet in Phoenix from Saturday afternoon through Sunday dinner.

Officers are Clerk and Recording Clerk. The Ministry and Oversight Committee was formed at the start and continues to be the only standing committee; it consists of three members from each Monthly Meeting. There is no budget nor money handled. There is a constituency of 96 adults; the average attendance of all ages is 70-100.

Sessions include a Meeting for Business on Saturday which is directed towards Yearly Meeting concerns. On Sunday there is a discussion and a Meeting for Worship. The rest of the time is devoted to fellowship, family style, with hospitality overnight in the homes of Friends in the spring.

There is no separate children's or Junior Friends' program.

In February, 1967 the sessions were at Phoenix Friends Meeting House. The meeting approved an open letter, drafted by Beatrice Russell, to President Johnson urging immediate peace in Viet Nam and escalation of the "War on Poverty." Copies were also sent to the Vice-President, to 127 Congressmen, National Press Services, FCNL, AFSC, Ambassador Goldberg, and leading newspapers in Arizona and elsewhere.

After a memorable wiener roast, Friends enjoyed a play-reading depicting a famous William Penn court trial. Everyone went home with local Friends and met again on Sunday morning for a stimulating discussion followed by Meeting for Worship and a pot-luck dinner.

"Fellowship has always been our aim. We keep all formal business meetings to a minimum. Both Meetings look forward to loving each other more closely."

WILLAMETTE QUARTERLY MEETING Corvallis, Eugene, Multnomah, Salem

In 1958 after growth in ten years from one to four meetings the Oregon Quarterly Meeting was formed, later to be renamed. Support was needed for the Junior Friends, already active in the northwest. Increasing responsibility was expected for the growing Yearly Meeting, including, as it turned out, making the general arrangements every third year. The main emphasis was to be, however, on fellowship, the sharing of concerns, and the common development of spiritual growth. To keep business functions to a minimum it was decided that the Quarterly Meeting should not handle any money but refer implementation of concerns and projects back to the monthly meetings.

Sessions have been half a day, but just now they are being expanded experimentally to two days. The aim is first to expedite the Meeting for Business by having committees meet regularly and consider items for the agenda; and second, to increase time for visiting and programs. There has been an annual family weekend camp; but with increased activities of this kind by the monthly meetings and the outings arranged for themselves by Junior Friends, plus the prospect of overnight visiting at sessions, the family camp will be discontinued, and

instead there will be developed adult weekend retreats.

Officers are Clerk, Recording Clerk, and Clerk of the Junior Friends. There are also a Representative to PYM Education Committee, Junior Friends Advisor, and Historian-Archivist. Standing committees are Ministry and Oversight, Retreat, Nominating, and Junior Friends; these meet quarterly and on call. A recent ad hoc committee is a Northwest Conference Committee (joint with Pacific NW QM).

There is no budget; the Clerk's expenses are taken care of by an informal collection. The host meetings underwrite all session expenses. Ministry and Oversight has been provided with a special fund to use for visitation and incidental expenses. This fund, plus any money wanted for common concerns, such as the travel costs for the World Conference delegates, are subscribed by the meetings.

Sessions meet successively in Eugene, Corvallis and Portland. Hospitality is overnight in homes; Joint meals are pot-luck. Nursery care during sessions is provided, and a children's program is arranged by the host meeting.

Out of a constituency of 152 resident adult members and attenders there is average attendance of 45 adults, 15 Junior Friends and 24 children. In Eugene in February 120 total attended.

Junior Friends have their own officers and Meeting for Business, making regular reports to the QM. They have a treasury, collecting money from the monthly meeting groups for their PYM contribution and managing their own finances. Their advisor is appointed by the QM after consultation with them. They meet half-yearly with Pacific NW QM Junior Friends, staying overnight camp style. They plan their own programs and share planning joint sessions with the adults. Their principal business is planning programs for sessions, winter and spring weekend outings, and summer camps for both junior and senior high groups.

The February QM was the first two-day one. Committees met Saturday afternoon, and Friends generally came by dinner time in homes, matching up families who did not know each other so well. A PYM committee met in Eugene that same weekend, and those Friends stayed through QM, most welcome visitation. Saturday night all children were left at home and everyone else met for a discussion led by Phil Wells "on the possibilities of reaching perfection," followed by folk dancing and visiting.

Sunday morning there were small discussion and worship-fellowship groups, then Meeting for Worship. A leisurely pot-luck dinner was followed by Meeting for Business — and some Friends who have to work on Saturdays attended for the first time in years. Prior committee meetings made the Meeting for Business much simpler. It was felt that this session was a success, and Multnomah Meeting is planning a similar program in May.

The principle business of the QM this year has been the growth of the M and O with real help to the QM; arranging travel support for FWC delegates, beginning on plans for a northwest conference for Friends who cannot attend PYM; experimenting with new ways of holding QM; support of Junior Friends activities.

The QM is moving towards satisfying a desire to develop closer friendships with those in other meetings, both as families and as individuals, with leisure at sessions for personal as well as group discussion of concerns. Through stimulating programs for young and old together as well as joint worship they look for greater nurture of the spirit.

REGISTRATION FOR PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING 1967

To be held at Claremont Men's College, Claremont, California

Please print

ADULTS _____ Last Name First Name Sex _____ _____ CHILDREN _____ Name Age Sex _____ _____ HOME ADDRESS _____ Street or Box Number City State Zip Code MEETING AFFILIATION _____ SPECIAL NEED (to be met at bus, physical limitations including those of children, room-mate preferences, etc.) _____ _____ ROOM ASSIGNMENTS _____	NIGHTS YOU WILL BE AT YEARLY MEETING: August 13-17 Sun. _____ Mon. _____ Tues. _____ Weds. _____ Aug. 12 (Comm. Meetings) Sat. _____ No. of Adults (over 21) _____ No. Jr. & Yg. Friends _____ No. children (5-11) _____ No. under 5 _____
---	--

Reservations for _____

REGISTRATION FEE (12 and over) \$1.00 per person			No.	Amount
Room and Board	4 Days	5 Days	_____	_____
Over 12	30.00	37.50	_____	_____
2 - 12	26.00	32.50	_____	_____
Under 2	4.00	5.00	_____	_____
Meals Only (under 2 no charge)			_____	_____
Over 12	21.00	26.00	_____	_____
2 - 12	20.00	25.00	_____	_____
Breakfast over 12	5.00	6.25	_____	_____
2 - 12	3.00	3.75	_____	_____
Lunch over 12	6.00	7.50	_____	_____
2 - 12	4.00	5.00	_____	_____
Dinner over 12	10.00	12.50	_____	_____
2 - 12	8.00	10.00	_____	_____

MEALS ONLY — BY THE MEAL (No charge under 2)

Breakfast	Please circle days		No.	Amount
Over 12—	1.25	S S M T W T	_____	_____
2 - 12	.75	S S M T W T	_____	_____
Lunch				
Over 12—	1.50	S S M T W T	_____	_____
2 - 12	1.00	S S M T W T	_____	_____
Dinner				
Over 12—	2.50	S S M T W T	_____	_____
2 - 12	2.00	S S M T W T	_____	_____
TOTAL CHARGES—Registration, Rooms, Meals				
AMOUNT ENCLOSED				_____

PAYABLE WITH REGISTRATION FORM:

1. Registration fees, plus \$10 deposit or
2. Total amount as listed above, or
3. FAMILY MAXIMUM: 4 DAYS \$100.00 PLUS REGISTRATION FEES
5 DAYS \$125 PLUS REGISTRATION FEES.

Make checks payable and mail by July 28 to:

ESTHER MORGAN, 14551 Dyer St., Sylmar, California 91342

Families with children, please fill out portion below

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM (Below 7th grade)

NAME	SEX	AGE	GRADE (Fall '67)
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

JUNIOR HIGH PROGRAM (Grades 7, 8, 9)

NAME	SEX	AGE	GRADE (Fall '67)
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

(Signature of accompanying parent or adult sponsor)

SENIOR HIGH PROGRAM (Grades 10, 11, 12)

NAME	SEX	AGE	GRADE (Fall '67)
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

(Signature of accompanying parent or adult sponsor)

COLLEGE AGE PROGRAM

NAME	SEX	AGE
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2016

COLLEGE PARK QUARTERLY MEETING

Berkeley, College Park, Davis, Delta, Fresno, Grass Valley, Monterey Peninsula, Palo Alto, Reno, Sacramento, San Francisco, Santa Cruz.

After some years of semi-annual meetings as the College Park Association, in November, 1948 delegates and others from five monthly meetings of the Bay area met to form the College Park Quarterly Meeting which now reaches across to Nevada. One day sessions have been held three times a year, but just completed is a reorganization to provide for Saturday and Sunday sessions in October and May, to be held at John Woolman School, with a Saturday session in January visiting around the monthly meetings.

The officers are Clerk, Recording Clerk and Treasurer. Standing committees include Ministry and Oversight, Peace, Social Order, and Religious Education. Recent ad hoc committees have been a Committee of Visitation to Stephen Flick (in jail) and a Special Committee to Apply for a License for medical supplies for North Viet Nam. There is a budget of \$600 which is raised by a gift of \$1 from each member per year. It is spent mainly for conference travel and committee expenses.

The constituent membership in the monthly meetings is about 650 adult members plus 150 attenders. Average attendance at Quarterly Meeting has been 80-90 adults plus 30 Junior Friends and 20 children.

Hospitality arrangements at John Woolman School for the two-day meetings are paid for and include meals, lodging and camping facilities; Desserts are brought by each family as extras. For the one day session all food is pot-luck.

Sessions include committee meetings, meetings for business and meetings for worship. There is provided nursery care and a children's program which is arranged by the Quarterly Meeting. Junior Friends conduct their own Meeting for Business and other planned activities; four to six adults are involved with them.

At Quarterly Meeting the standing committees convene first, all holding open meetings which are also interest groups and the place for discussion of concerns. Meeting for Business is about three parts for Quarterly Meeting and one part for Yearly Meeting business. In the fall of 1966 the principal business was concerned with John Woolman School, the reorganization of the Quarterly Meeting schedule, and medical relief to North Viet Nam. The latter arose from the principal concern of the Peace Committee open meeting.

Sessions for May, 1967 were scheduled to include on Saturday afternoon: a short Meeting for Worship, open committee meetings (1'45"), Meeting for Business to hear committee reports (2'), and Saturday evening a seminar on peace (2'). On Sunday there was scheduled Meeting for Business for the State of the Society Reports (1'), John Woolman School annual report (1'), and Meeting for Worship.

The principle function of the Quarterly Meeting is described as "inter-communication between the monthly meetings with some cooperation on concerns. The Quarterly Meeting has kept the monthly meetings together in supporting John Woolman School. The fellowship is valuable, but it is doubtful if the Quarterly Meeting has much direct effect on the life of the monthly meetings just now. Hoped for is increased fellowship and a joint program for Junior Friends. It is expected that the new format of two day sessions will greatly enhance the functioning of the standing committees and hopefully will lead to more active joint work on concerns."

PACIFIC NORTHWEST QUARTERLY MEETING

Vancouver Meeting was host to a very fine Quarterly Meeting April 8 and 9, 1967. Saturday sessions were held in the Community Christian Church which is both nearby and close in friendship to the meeting.

The afternoon business moved along well under the able leadership of Paton Crouse. There is never sufficient time to discuss the urgent concerns of our committees on Ministry and Oversight, Education, Peace and Social Order; but there was general agreement that seminars conducted by these committees in recent months have contributed greatly to the communication among quarterly meeting members on these subjects and that they should be continued. Each meeting gave its State of the Meeting report, giving us glimpses of what has seemed most important to each other's meetings in recent months.

Following them, a member asked, "Would it make a difference to each community if there were no meeting?" and answered, "Yes, we do make a difference, and even more important, the meetings make a difference to us." Junior Friends held separate business meeting and brought a report to the general session.

It is a real privilege to belong to an international quarterly meeting, and we were made particularly aware of its implications during the evening program. Douglas Sanders, a member of Vancouver Meeting who is active in the Committee to Aid American War Objectors, led the discussion, aided by two young men who have left the United States as an alternative to going to war or going to prison.

Vancouver Meeting is feeling an urgent need for more space for worship, First Day School and their other activities. At Meeting for Worship, the meeting house was crammed, and Junior Friends held meeting in the Clerk's home. After an ample informal lunch we were on our way—600 miles to Calgary, into the mountains to Argenta, across the water to Victoria, and south of the border to Tacoma, Seattle, and other Washington towns.

*ALICE MILES
University Meeting*

SEVENTH ANNUAL REUNION OF FRIENDS IN MEXICO

48 Friends met April 29 for four days at Casa de los Amigos in Mexico City. Among them were Friends from Mexico City and Ciudad Victoria Meetings, from Monterrey, Patzcuaro and Guadalajara, and a number of young people from AFSC programs in rural Mexico.

Visitors from the U.S.A. included Bainbridge Davis of Friends World Committee for Consultation, Esther and Howard Richards of Pacific Yearly Meeting, Eloise and Merlin Mather of West Branch, Iowa (and Valle de Bravo, Mexico) and Matilde Haworth of California Yearly Meeting.

A talk by Bainbridge Davis centered on the Friends World Conference of 1967, touched on ideas which are important in relations between Friends in all countries, the barriers of language, semantics, and of differences in religious concepts which all must recognize and seek to understand with love and humility. He used the symbols of spokes of a wheel which all lead to the central reality.

The conference divided up into four study groups dealing with chapters in "No Time But This Present."

On Saturday evening the Young People's Group of the "Casa" joined the conference to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the AFSC. At this meeting a message sent by Heberto

FRIENDS IN MEXICO (Con't.)

Sein, summarizing the work and ideals of the Service Committee, was read by his son Heberto Sein, Jr.

At the final session the study groups presented resumes of their discussions. The message of the reunion to Friends around the world was read and approved. Plans were made for the next Session to be held in Ciudad Victoria in November, to hear the reports on the World Conference.

Each succeeding reunion of Friends in Mexico brings closer ties and deeper understanding.

*HELEN VAN ARX
Mexico City Monthly Meeting*

YEARLY MEETING VISITATION

It was my privilege to visit Europe in the summer of 1966, and the basis of my trip was Quaker visitation.

I was included, first, in a pilgrimage to the George Fox country. The first day the climb to Pendle Hill was achieved in the morning. In the afternoon we went to Lancaster Jail where Fox was confined, and in the evening back to Yealand to the home of Elfrida Vipont Foulds where we had music and philosophic discussion. The next day we went to Preston Patrick to see the old Meeting House, then to Ulverston and Swarthmore, originally the home of Judge and Margaret Fell. In the evening, in an open session with the students, there was real communication, an inspiration to see, between young and old.

On the continent I found a small group of Quakers in Cologne. They are helping to support a neighborhood house which was started back in 1947. In Berlin I was part of a discussion group concerned with "No Time But This Present," in preparation for the 1967 conference.

It is heart-warming to visit with Friends of other countries. It seems to me that climbing Pendle Hill was the highlight of my trip. The climb is rugged, especially in the spring; then the breath-taking view from the summit comes upon one. That George Fox received his vision there we can be assured. The tablet on the mountain says "Let your lives speak." Is this not the essence of Quakerism?

*FRIEDA SHERBURN,
Santa Barbara Meeting.
(For the Visitation Committee)*

QUAKERS AND ECUMENICITY (Con'tt.)

nor ever will or can stand in uniformity of thought and opinion, but in Christian love only."

I believe Councils of Churches usually accept such an interpretation sympathetically. The experience of London Yearly Meeting in relationship with the British Council of Churches is an exception. I have not heard of any American Council which has not welcomed a Friends Meeting after an interpretation such as the one I have given. At any rate, can we reflect on Thomas Story's basis of fellowship without acknowledging that ecumenical cooperation may be one application of Christian love to which God is calling us now and from which we may learn.

*MADGE SEAVER,
San Francisco Meeting.*

CHOICES

"The distresses of choice are our chance to be blessed . . ." —W. H. Auden

This is a paradox. So often we feel the distresses more clearly than we acknowledge the blessings. What are the blessings of choice? How do they come to us?

When we choose we find blessing in becoming focussed—single in eye and of one mind. Peace comes through making a selection, through having to decide. We experience comfort, joy and strength in knowing who we are and where we belong at this moment. We may be blessed by the recognition that now we are as salt—not honey, or wine, or French pastry: it is a relief to know we need not be a universal flavoring; it is good to accept oneself as preservative and essential seasoning. But hungry humans would die of salt alone: wine and honey are needed, and vegetables and fruit and bread. Sometimes then our choice will be to share effervescence, to provide sweetness, to bake bread. Always the secret lies in discovering which thing we are, what we really want, what "one thing is needful."

Having chosen we are no longer caught up in our greed for irreconcilables. As it is, our greed is so huge, our hungers so immense. We want everything. We weigh and balance all sides before we make any decisions, however small they may be. We want to be certain before we assume any risk or take any plunge. Truly we act as though we wanted to be God, or at least to play nursemaid for His world.

It is right that we count the cost before we build our towers, but we should first acknowledge where the foundation of our towers rest and respond to the Mystery towards which they reach. It is through the response of worship that we come to trust, to "Be sure a wiser Hand than yours or mine pours out this potion for our lips to drink."

So few of our human decisions are really irrevocable. That we think they are is a measure of our pride, our limited perspective, which sees only hard-and-fast contrasts and thinks in measurements of "once and for all." There is often great fluidity, possibility, growing room in any area where decisions are made. Processes balance one another. Pruning calls for certain beautiful branches to be cut off in order that life may be strengthened and deepened. But lopped-off branches can protect what has been selected for growing, or they may become soil to nourish other later plantings. We need never mourn the cutting down. We need not be timid about using the pruner's knife, provided we cultivate the gardener's eye and spirit.

Life is endlessly fertile, constantly adapting and changing. "Behold, I have this day set before thee life and death, blessing and cursing. Now, therefore, choose life." When we choose life, with all its attendant stresses and capacity for wonder and pain and growth, we come to know what it means to be "infinitely concerned," as Mary was concerned with all that is not transitory. This is "That good part, which shall not be taken away."

Our choosing and rejecting, our yes-and-no-saying, are on a vaster scale than we recognize. They are grounded finally in Mystery, and we long to rest in that Mystery. This is what worship means. This is the way toward "feeling at home" in the universe. This is speaking "Thou" with our lives, and being spoken to, and through, in our turn.

*JEANNE LOHMANN
San Francisco Meeting.*

A LETTER FROM WILLIAM PENN HOUSE

To Friends of Pacific Yearly Meeting:

Sally and I as co-directors of William Penn House have gained from this sometimes hectic and always rewarding six months in this exciting venture a deep sense of the need for this Quaker center in our nation's capital. Members of the Congressional staff have spoken appreciatively of the opportunities for relaxed discussion of crucial issues. Study groups, using William Penn House for two to five day seminars, have found satisfaction in the depth of communication they have been privileged to have both with Congressional and Administration officials. Individual concerned Friends who have been our guests for brief periods have expressed appreciation of the chance for fellowship and worship in a Quaker "home." The use of our facilities has exceeded our early expectations.

We are also encouraged by the response of Quaker organizations and Yearly Meetings. Our National Consultative Committee under the chairmanship of George Corwin has held two meetings, attended by representatives of most of the 22 endorsing Quaker bodies. We are happy that on both occasions there was strong representation from Pacific Yearly Meeting.

A result of a vigorous volunteer effort, our fund raising drive for \$75,000 (to underwrite the initial years of operation and to pay off the mortgage) has already brought us 175 contributors and a total of \$25,000. A number of Yearly Meetings (including Pacific) and Monthly Meetings have placed an item for William Penn House in their current budgets. Though there are many demands for funds from Friends, we feel confident that with continuing effort and with the assistance of a generous matching grant for all gifts to our operating account we shall be able to meet our spartan budgets. However, the real cutting edge of our program comes from gifts of time and energy from the volunteers who are carrying program responsibilities.

Sally and I feel that William Penn House has been able to make some contribution to the efforts of Friends throughout the country to protest the Vietnam war. We have also felt that this program can strengthen Friends concerns on the U.N., on disarmament, and on the food and population problem. Because of the heritage of confidence built by the concerns expressed in Washington over the years by various Friends groups, we find many doors open.

We send our appreciation of the interest and support of the Pacific Yearly Meeting. We have enjoyed the visits of many of your members and look forward to a continuing close relationship.

ROBERT H. and SARA P. CORY
Directors, William Penn House

ESAU'S LEAD

War at any price? Why not? War makes for prosperity. Do not capital, labor, management, in fact most of us, who have power and influence, prize prosperity higher than any other value?

But by placing prosperity first are we not following the lead of the legendary Esau, selling our birth-right for a mess of pottage?

And the mess we are buying includes more than passing prosperity. It includes all the evils of tyranny and leads us down the blind alley of military mythology.

EUBANKS CARNSNER
Riverside Meeting

FAMINE IN BIHAR, INDIA

Brief news reports of famine have been confirmed by cable on April 7 from Rodney Clurman, Executive Secretary of the World Food and Population Crisis Committee, that probably by that time 100,000 people were dying each month in the two-year drouth and total famine area of Bihar. One of the survey team was Joseph Alter of Eastside Meeting, a doctor resident in New Delhi. A massive international program of aid is being mounted.

Friends and others are being asked to make what contributions and suggestions they care to. Cash contributions will be tax deductible and can be made through the Committee, 31 Union Square W., New York, N.Y. 10003, or in Indian Rupees to the account of the Committee in the State Bank of India, Patna.

Those interested in volunteer service for periods of six months should write the Committee in New York for information. Only those in excellent physical condition will be able to go. The major immediate needs are:

Well-drilling equipment

Trained personnel to operate such equipment

Medical supplies as outlined by Joseph Alter
—inquire of Committee

Medical technicians

Transportation—initially about 15 jeeps and 15 panel trucks

Contributions in cash, unless otherwise specified by the donors, will be used to purchase shipments of Corn Soy Milk @ \$.09/lb., which will be shipped by CARE and distributed immediately by the fine staff of CARE at work in the field.

The Committee is also working with AFPRO, OXFAM, the Bihar Relief Committee, the Bishop's Relief Fund, Church World Service, and all other voluntary agencies, as well as the Government of the State of Bihar. Those experienced in relief work are asked to communicate suggestions. It is the hope of the Committee to mount a major demonstration in agriculture, family planning, education, literacy, health, etc., in Bihar after the present crisis has been alleviated.

Friends are asked to respond at their earliest convenience, as well as to share this information with other members of their business and social communities.

(Copies of the complete cable and appeal to Friends may be secured from the Editor of the **Bulletin**.)

WILLAMETTE QUARTERLY MEETING

50 Friends and 28 Junior Friends met in Multnomah Meeting House in Portland, Oregon on the weekend of May 14-15. Saturday evening Bob Martin of Portland Friends Worship Group and 4 student panelists from Lewis and Clark College described the Peace March in San Francisco. All felt it to have been an inspiring experience, but they could not guess at the impression made on San Franciscans. They thought the press played down the emotional stimulation of the parade; all felt the behavior of participants, bystanders and police was good.

Junior Friends finished the evening folk dancing and stayed all night at the Martins. Other Friends dispersed to homes of local Friends.

Small group discussions Sunday morning were on "UFO's and Religion," "What have Friends lost and gained in the past 300 years," "The Credibility Gaps, public and private," and "Vietnam." These were attended by adults and Junior Friends in good numbers.

After Meeting for Worship, while the line formed for dinner, a film on Earlham College's campus and

its more recent growth and development was shown. After dinner the children went to the Oregon Museum for Science and Industry while Meeting for Business met.

The Quarterly Meeting finished arrangements for travel money for our delegates to the World Conference, and made some tentative plans for a possible Northwest Gathering of Friends in the summer of 1968; Junior Friends reported that their summer camp plans are shaping up well. Friends agreed that some regular financial support to the QM should be considered in the fall.

VANCE MacDOWELL
Salem Meeting

NOTES FROM HERE AND THERE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Birth

BOYD—on March 22, to Charles and Nadene Boyd (Eastside) a daughter, Laurel Elizabeth.

Deaths

DOROTHEA WORLEY on March 18, wife of Edwin Worley (Reno). "Her affirmation of life provided inspiration to her visitors and through her final illness she continued 'to make melody unto the Lord'."

FLORENCE WILLIS (Los Angeles) on April 13, aged 85. "Born in England, she came to this country as a young woman, and coming to our Meeting in 1946 she has been a faithful and loyal member"

CARL MAY (Santa Monica) on April 13. "His sudden death is a blow to us all."

NEWS OF FRIENDS

CHARLES COOPER (Santa Barbara) is preparing serial installments for the **Whittier Daily News** of the new history of Whittier College.

FLOYD SCHMOE represented University Meeting's Social Concerns Committee at the Quaker-UN Seminar in New York.

MAURA MACWHINNEY (Riverside) has won a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship for 1967-68.

IAN THIERMANN is carrying out a concern to establish a fund for legal defense of CO's unable to pay for it; matching funds are offered by a foundation. Santa Monica Meeting is handling the fund. Of the young man whom they will help initially Ian said, "I looked at him and thought Who is my son?"

FROM THE MEETINGS

UNIVERSITY MEETING recently held an all-day "thrashing session" to consider their order. Some results are division of Ministry and Counsel into two committees—Oversight, and Ministry and Worship, and elimination of announcements after Meeting for Worship . . . Paper back books are being collected for Quinault and Nisqually Indian Reservation schools.

PALO ALTO MEETING will hold a family work camp at Ben Lomond July 8-14, to build a shelter for campers. Cost: \$1.25/day/adults, 75c for children.

SANTA BARBARA asks that all mail be sent to Virginia Leinau, Clerk, 1617-A Chapala St., Santa Barbara, CA 93105. Do not send any to Neighborhood House, where they only rent space for Meeting for Worship.

LOS ANGELES MEETING address in the **Bulletin** should be corrected to read 4167 So. Normandie.

ORANGE GROVE MEETING is publicizing in area newspapers the CO alternative to the draft and inviting young men of draft age to come to their Meeting.

SAN FRANCISCO MEETING members stood with FCL people in silent vigil from midnight to the execution hour outside the gates of San Quentin when Clarence Mitchell died in the gas chamber.

FROM ALL QUARTERS

A NATIONWIDE PROGRAM TO AID WAR BURNED AND WAR INJURED VIETNAMESE CHILDREN is underway. They will be brought to this country for medical treatment. In San Francisco, St. Luke's Hospital has volunteered beds and services. Other hospitals are expected to volunteer. Families are being sought to provide homes to care for the children between operative stays in our hospitals. San Francisco Meeting is considering sponsoring a child. Are there hospital and homes in your towns?

* * *

The place of prayer is a precious habitation; I saw this habitation to be safe, to be inwardly quiet, when there was great stirrings and commotions in the world.

JOHN WOOLMAN

Postmasters: Send form 3579

FRIENDS BULLETIN
2635 Emerald Street
Eugene, Oregon 97403

Second-Class Postage Paid
at Eugene, Oregon

David and Dorothy Cook
1959 Hays Street
San Luis Obispo, Calif. 93401